

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2018-372-C

IN RE:

Application of Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. for an)
Expansion of its Certificate of Public Convenience and)
Necessity to Provide Local Exchange and Exchange Access)
Service to Customers Located in Certain Areas of the State)
of South Carolina)
_____)

MOTION FOR EXPEDITED REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF APPLICATION

Horry Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (“HTC”) hereby respectfully moves for expedited review of its Application, filed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-280, to amend its Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity to permit it to provide local exchange and exchange access service to customers located in those areas of the State of South Carolina that are served by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. d/b/a AT&T South Carolina (“AT&T”) in Marion County and Dillon County; and in those areas of the State of South Carolina that are served by Frontier Communications of the Carolinas, Inc. (“Frontier”) in Georgetown County where Applicant does not already have authority to provide such service. (the “Application”).

HTC requests that this matter be decided by the Commission at the Commission’s earliest opportunity in a regularly-scheduled agenda session, that a formal evidentiary hearing be waived, and that the hearing currently scheduled for February 27, 2019, be

canceled. In support of this Motion, HTC would respectfully show unto this honorable Commission the following:

1. HTC filed its Application in this matter on November 28, 2018.
2. HTC published a Notice of Filing of the request in newspapers of general circulation, as directed by the Commission. The deadline to intervene in this matter was January 18, 2019.
3. The South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”) is a statutory party to this action. See S.C. Code Ann. § 58-4-10(B). On December 19, 2018, counsel for the South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”) filed a letter with the Commission stating that ORS does not oppose the Commission granting the relief sought in HTC’s Application. HTC’s counsel has consulted with counsel for ORS, and ORS does not object to HTC’s request for expedited review of this matter.
4. No other comments or petitions to intervene were received in response to the notice. Thus, all interested persons have been afforded an opportunity for a hearing, as required by S.C. Code Ann. § 58-9-280(B), Section 1-23-320(a) of the South Carolina Administrative Procedures Act, and constitutional due process. Proceeding without a formal hearing in this matter would serve the public interest in administrative efficiency.
5. In support of its Application, HTC filed the verified testimony of Brent Groome. In his verified testimony, Mr. Groome described in detail the relief HTC is seeking, and testified that HTC possesses sufficient technical, financial, and managerial resources to provide local exchange and exchange access telecommunications services in those areas of the State of South Carolina for which it seeks to expand its certification.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons stated above, Horry Telephone Cooperative respectfully requests that the Commission:

- (1) grant HTC's request for expedited review of its Application and waiver of a hearing in this matter;
 - (2) issue an order granting HTC's Application and amending HTC's Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity as described in the Application;
 - (3) cancel the hearing on this matter currently scheduled for February 27, 2019;
- and
- (4) grant such other and further relief as is just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
M. John Bowen, Jr.
Margaret M. Fox
Burr & Forman LLP
Post Office Box 11390
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
(803) 799-9800
Email: jbowen@burr.com;
pfox@burr.com

ATTORNEYS FOR HORRY TELEPHONE
COOPERATIVE, INC.

Columbia, South Carolina

January 31, 2019

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

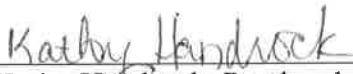
Docket No. 2018-372-C

Re: Application of Horry Telephone Cooperative,)
Inc. for an Expansion of its Certificate of)
Public Convenience and Necessity to Provide)
Local Exchange and Exchange Access Service)
to Customers Located in Certain Areas of the)
State of South Carolina)

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Kathy Handrock, a Paralegal with Burr & Forman LLP do hereby certify that I have this date served one (1) copy of the foregoing Motion for Expedited Review and Approval of Application upon the following parties of record by causing said copies to be deposited in the United States Mail, First Class, postage prepaid to:

C. Lessie Hammonds Esquire
Office of Regulatory Staff
1401 Main Street, Suite 900
Columbia, South Carolina 29201


Kathy Handrock, Paralegal
Burr & Forman LLP
Post Office Box 11390
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

January 31, 2019

Columbia, South Carolina